

# 2025

## AVCA Thirty Under 30 College



### **Whitney Battoe**

St. Thomas University  
Head Coach

#### **Career Accomplishments to Date:**

- 3X Sun Conference Coach of the Year (2021, 2022, 2024) - Women's Volleyball
- 1X Appalachian Athletic Conference Assistant Coach of the Year (2025) - Men's Volleyball
- 4X Sun Conference Regular Season Champions (2021, 22, 23, 24)
- 3X Sun Conference Tournament Champions (2022, 23, 24)
- 2024 & 2025 NAIA National Tournament Appearance
- 2025 NAIA National Quarterfinal Appearance (33-1 season record)
- 5 NAIA All-Americans

#### **Coaching Roles:**

- 2016-2018: Head Coach 12U Team, Florida Suns Volleyball Club
- 2020-Current: Head Coach, St. Thomas University Women's Indoor Volleyball
- 2024-Current: Assistant Coach, St. Thomas University Men's Indoor Volleyball

#### **What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?**

Volleyball has been my passion since 10 years old and has taught me a plethora of intangible skills I can apply to life. I decided to continue coaching after my playing career because this job allows me to create an environment for the next generation to flourish and grow learning important skills on and off the court as well.

**What are your career goals in the sport?**

I coach collegiate volleyball with the goal to empower and mentor young women during a transformational time period in their life. Another goal of mine is to create more excitement/bring attention to the game...one way I plan to do that is by breaking the NAIA women's volleyball attendance record (roughly 2,650 people) this upcoming season. Additionally, I have a goal to win a National Championship at whatever level I coach at. Lastly, I hope to join executive committees to play a part in evolving the game.

**Which coaches have influenced you the most?**

In my youth, I was influenced most by my club coaches at Sports Performance Volleyball Club in Illinois (Coach Amanda & Coach Cheryl Butler). They were the first coaches to believe in my ability and leadership. In my professional career, I have been most influenced by Coach Dani Busboom Kelly, Sam Erger, and Kirsten Booth. All of these women have set the tone for what women are capable of achieving in women's sports. They lead with grit and grace.

**What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?**

What I love most about coaching is the the relationships I have with my players. The ability to know my players on a deeper level allows me to create championship cultures built on love and excellence. My players know that I support them as more than just athletes, and the strength of our relationships has allowed me to impact my players lives both on and off the court.